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The International Week

With the intensification of the Tito-Stalin dispute, Yugoslavia will probably soon refer the issue to the UN. While the GA Special Political Committee approved a renewed conciliation effort in the Greek case, the Political Committee voted to continue and strengthen its Korean Commission. Nationalist China's complaint against the USSR, placed on the GA agenda last week, was met by Chinese Communist proclamation of a People's Republic and immediate Soviet recognition.

Tension at the GA and Yugoslavia's SC candidacy. The triple developments of Yugoslavia's bid for an SC seat, China's complaint against the USSR and Soviet acquisition of the A-bomb have combined to raise the tension at the GA to a high pitch, dispelling the atmosphere of relative amiability prevailing at the outset. The Russians have made no effort to conceal their fury at the prospect of Yugoslavia's admission to the SC, and have let it be known, probably by design, that they regard Belgrade's ambitions and US support thereof as "the most serious thing" since the inception of the UN. Consequently, SYG Lie and a number of more timid delegates have become fearful that the USSR is being pushed too hard and fast and might be pressed to the point of withdrawal from the UN. However vexed it might be by such a setback, there is little reason to believe that Moscow would pull out of the UN at this time, leaving the organization under the virtually unopposed sway of the Western bloc. Groundless though these fears may seem, they have had some effect on the UN Secretariat and apparently on GA President Romulo. With Lie's blessing, Romulo is considering an approach to the USSR whereby in return for shunting Yugoslavia into ECOSOC instead of the SC, the Russians would cooperate in settling the Greek case and eliminating offensive references to the US and UK from the Soviet "peace resolution." Meanwhile the SC elections are being postponed to give Romulo a chance to arrange some deal and to give the delegations more time for reflection before voting. While Romulo as head of the Philippine Delegation is pledged

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to vote for Yugoslavia. As GA President he seems paradoxically to be seeking a way in which to ease the tension at Lake Success. Although better than a majority of the GA probably still favor Yugoslavia, it is uncertain whether Belgrade will be able to muster the required two-thirds support at the GA plenary next week.

Yugoslavia may appeal to UN. It now appears likely that Yugoslavia may present its dispute with the USSR to the UN. Yugoslavia has already indicated, by its decision to run against the Soviet-sponsored candidate for the Security Council, that it is prepared to incur the Soviet wrath aroused by such a course. Soviet denunciation of the Soviet-Yugoslav friendship treaty may have convinced Tito that the psychological moment has arrived for appealing to the UN in order to secure Western support and deter the Soviets from taking more serious steps. Yugoslav charges in the latest note to the USSR that the "Soviet Government is violating international principles contained in the United Nations Charter" may have been intended to pave the way for introducing the case in the UN, and the Yugoslav UN delegation reportedly expects instructions to follow this course.

China's UN complaint against the USSR backfires. The Chinese Nationalists' ill-starred eleventh hour complaint against the USSR seems merely to be hastening the diplomatic eclipse of the Kuomintang. It has accelerated Moscow's in part retaliatory recognition of the Peiping government, followed in short order by the satellites. The contagion of recognition will probably spread to some non-Communist nations and is certain to increase pressures toward early recognition by countries like the UK with extensive business interests in China.

It is likely that the Kremlin will reply to Canton's charges before the General Assembly by formally questioning the authority of the present Chinese delegation further to represent China in the UN. The legal questions involved in unseating the delegation of a permanent member of the Security Council are both complex and unprecedented. The rules of both the SC and GA provide for the provisional seating of any delegation whose credentials are questioned until the respective organ decides the matter. These rules technically favor the incumbents, particularly in the case of the Chinese who enjoy veto rights. Nevertheless there can be little doubt

that sooner or later, as the majority of the UN members come to recognize the Peiping government, the UN would find some way to unseat the present Chinese delegation, if it refuses to give way. However, as the process of general recognition will consume some time, it is most unlikely that the present Chinese delegation will be replaced before the end of the present GA session.

New moves to spur intra-European trade. Two new efforts to stimulate intra-European trade are underway, despite the delays required to adjust to the recent wave of currency devaluations. The OEEC trade liberalization plan, under which all participants were to report, by 1 October, those products upon which they were willing to reduce import restrictions, already shows some promise. The UK is removing license requirements on some 50% of all items privately imported from OEEC countries except Switzerland, Belgium, and temporarily Western Germany. Italy is freeing 45% of Italian imports from OEEC nations and is willing to free an additional 15-20% on a reciprocal basis. Most other participating countries will shortly follow suit.

In a related effort to reduce the financial barriers to intra-European trade as well, France has proposed to Italy and Benelux the creation of a continental trade liberalization area within which currencies would be relatively freely convertible, trade quotas drastically lowered, and capital movements freed. The French would like to see a real monetary union along these lines. These measures, if vigorously applied would do much to remove the present logjam of complex restrictions hampering trade expansion. Moreover, the UK, already conscious of continental irritation at unilateral British devaluation, may well feel it desirable to join in any such liberalization scheme.

Chicago "Peace Conference" reflects trade union role in Soviet "peace and democracy" drive. The two-day "National Trade Union Conference for Defense of Peace", just concluded in Chicago, exemplifies the function of the "peace committees" organized in recent months by leftwing labor elements in the US and other Western countries. At the July WFTU Congress in Milan the Soviet delegate called for the formation within industries of "permanent committees for peace" which should become "the mainstay and leading force of the peoples' all-out movement for peace." Subsequently, such committees were established in the US, Latin America, and throughout Western

Europe and have actively promoted the national peace congresses held in these areas.

The Chicago meeting, which was to have been attended by a Soviet trade union delegation and by Mexican and French Communist labor leaders, was called by leftwing CIO and AFL unions. The decision to hold it coincidentally with Soviet Foreign Minister Vishinsky's proposal for a "peace pact" and with "International Peace Day" suggests the scope of the Communist effort to influence US public opinion. Deprived of the presence of the foreign delegates (who did not obtain visas), the Chicago Conference pledged its full support to the US Steel Workers in the "struggle for higher wages and improved conditions." By this action the participating leftwing unions demonstrated their apparent readiness to support the current WFTU strategy of promoting wide-scale wage-and-hour strikes, regardless of origin, in the hope of stimulating inflationary trends in non-Soviet countries.

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IOJ may split into East and West factions. Recent developments within the International Journalists Organization (IOJ), one of the last non-governmental bodies with both Eastern and Western representation, indicate that its Western components are preparing for early withdrawal. An association of newspapermen representing more than 28 nations, the IOJ was formed shortly after World War II and managed to resist growing East-West tensions until the Czech Communist coup. Friction between its Soviet and Anglo-US member associations, roused by the purge of Czech journalists, has been recently aggravated by the undisguised efforts of the Czech Secretary General to control IOJ activities.

Italian labor to be divided at London Trade Union Conference. Continuing differences between the Italian Socialist and Catholic trade unions will probably result in separate representation for each group at the November 28 International Labor Conference in London to launch a Western-oriented Free Trade Union Federation. Although some US labor representatives have urged a united Italian delegation, British labor leaders point out that the Italian Socialists face serious problems which must be solved before their labor unions can unite with the other non-Communist unions and that any previous "unification" would be artificial.

SCI continuation assured. The colonial powers in the UN stand small chance of success in challenging the continuation of the Special Committee on Information. It was set up in 1946 to examine and make recommendations on the social, economic and educational information on non-self-governing territories required annually of the eight colonial powers. Sensitive to its criticisms of their administration, the colonial powers, notably the UK, Belgium, Netherlands and France, strongly oppose the committee's existence and have refused to submit political information which, though at present requested, is not mandatory. The eight non-administering members, on the other hand, favor permanent status and committee power to make recommendations on political questions. Feeling that recommendations by its balanced membership are more reasonable than those which could be reached in the unwieldy GA Trusteeship Committee, where the colonial powers are outnumbered 51-8, and yet will generally be accepted by that body, the US favors continuation for three years, a compromise which the committee has accepted and which the GA will certainly approve.

Implications of ICJ Norwegian Fisheries Case. The Norwegian-UK controversy over fishing rights, now before the

International Court of Justice, has important legal and practical implications for the US. It involves the right of UK vessels to fish in Norwegian fjords outside the three-mile limit but inside an imaginary base line, established by a Norwegian decree of 1935, drawn from headland to headland, many of them 30 miles apart. The US is disturbed over the trend since 1945 toward unilateral declarations of sovereignty over high seas contiguous to their coasts by a number of maritime nations, including Mexico, Argentina, Chile and Iceland. Others, including Cuba and Portugal, are contemplating similar claims.

Recently the US protested the Soviet claim to a twelve-mile territorial limit in the Baltic. This claim would raise serious problems in the Far East, where fish constitutes such an essential part of the diet of Japan and Korea. A unilateral Soviet order, claiming jurisdiction to twelve miles offshore and barring Japanese fishing vessels, would curtail seriously the amount of fish available for the Japanese. An ICJ decision would clarify the legal situation, and at least strengthen the hands of such countries as the UK and the US to whom fishing is vitally important.

Complications on Eritrea and Somaliland. As the initial speeches and reactions of the 59 UN members accumulate, there appears to be much opposition to Italian trusteeship over Somaliland and partition of Eritrea between Ethiopia and the Sudan, as favored by the US. The pro-Italian, Arab-Asiatic and Soviet blocs all lean toward eventual independence for Eritrea while the Arab and Asiatic states still oppose any Italian control over Somaliland. Consequently it is possible that either some form of broader UN trusteeship for these areas, with early independence in Eritrea's case, or further postponement pending investigation by a UN commission will be decided upon by the GA.

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